



Natalie Kuldell
February 3rd, 2009

[http://openwetware.org/wiki/20.20\(S09\)](http://openwetware.org/wiki/20.20(S09))

2020: Futurists

Freeman Dyson writes:

"Biotechnology will become as domesticated as computer games and children and housewives will create their new animal and plant species at home."



Quack? Genius?



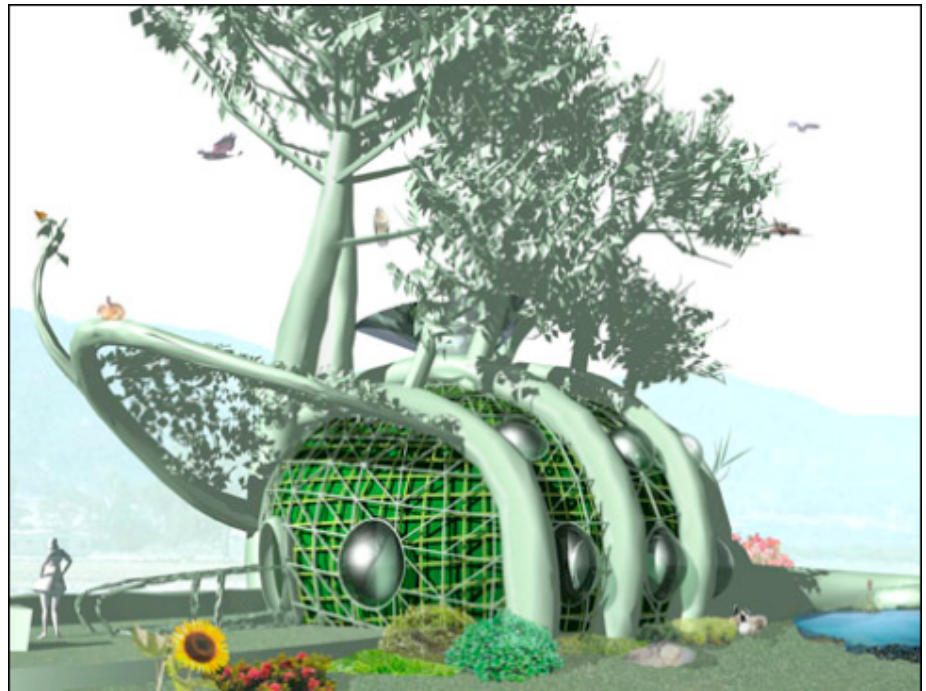
2020: Futurists

Freeman Dyson writes:

"Biotechnology will become as domesticated as computer games and children and housewives will create their new animal and plant species at home.



Quack? Genius?



MIT Human Ecology Design team

2020: Historians



WHY ROBERT A. HEINLEIN
OWES HIS LIFE TO APOLLO

MICROWORLDS: A
NEW LOOK AT INNER SPACE

MILGRAM AND HIS
CYRANOID: GOODBYE TO
PAVLOV AND FREUD

GORDON COOPER
ON SOVIET DOMINATION
OF SPACE,
NASA'S IMPOTENCE,
AND UFOs

REVOLUTION IN
BIOTECHNOLOGY: NEW
LIFE FOR SALE

Austria 58 S Belgium 109 BF/Denmark 20.00 DKr Finland 11.80 FM/France 15.00 FFr Germany 9.00 DM/Greece 160 Dr Holland 7.50 Hfl/Italy 2900 L Japan 980 Y



*"a sophisticated
computer at your
fingertips"*

•20 lb

•16K RAM

•Built in thermal
printer

•Operating system
and BASIC language
in ROM

INTRODUCING HP-85.

A NEW WORLD OF PERSONAL-PROFESSIONAL COMPUTATION.

Imagine the new world that would unfold before you if you had a powerful, portable, completely integrated computer system at your personal disposal. And at an affordable price. That's exactly what Hewlett-Packard has just created.

THE HP-85: A PERSONAL COMPUTER FOR PROFESSIONALS.

At the lab, on your desk or in your study this 20-pound, self-contained system provides professional computing power when and where you need it. That means no more waiting for data to be remotely processed and returned.

A COMPLETE COMPUTER SYSTEM IN ONE SMALL PACKAGE.

You get all this in the HP-85:
Interactive graphics under keyboard control.

16K RAM Memory standard.

Standard typewriter keyboard with separate numeric key pad and eight user-definable special function keys.

High resolution CRT display with powerful editing capability.

Built-in thermal printer produces a hard copy of the display on command.

Built-in tape cartridge drive. Each cartridge provides 217K bytes of storage capacity.

Operating system and BASIC language, permanently stored in ROM.
**A SOPHISTICATED COMPUTER
AT YOUR FINGERTIPS.**

Hewlett-Packard has combined these sophisticated capabilities with advanced design to give you a system that is easy to use yet uncompromised in its power.

A key to this achievement is Hewlett-Packard's choice of BASIC

for the HP-85's language. BASIC is easy to learn and lets you solve complex problems in an English-like, conversational style.

Sixteen graphic commands have been added to the HP-85's extended BASIC to give you easy control of its amazingly versatile graphic capabilities. You can draw graphs, label axes, set the scale of the X and Y axes independently, plot data and control the graphics display either from the keyboard or in programs.

Other advanced capabilities include software security, flexible string commands, an internal clock, programmable beeps—more than 150 commands and statements to give you the power you need to solve your problems swiftly and easily.

DESIGNED FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW.

Whether you're in science, engineering, industry or business, the HP-85 you need today can easily be expanded or customized to meet your needs tomorrow.

You can double RAM capacity to 32K or expand ROM firmware to 80K with optional modules that plug right into the HP-85.

It's easy to enhance the system's capability by adding powerful HP peripherals like a high-speed, full-width line printer, full-size plotter, or flexible disc drives.

You can also streamline your problem solving with HP Application Pacs which offer preprogrammed solutions in a wide variety of disciplines on prerecorded magnetic tape cartridges.

The HP-85's versatility, expandability and sophisticated simplicity all grew out of Hewlett-Packard's underlying principle of excellence

by design. Excellence by design means rigorous quality control and testing as well as a worldwide maintenance support network.

When you buy the HP-85, you're not just buying a computer system, you're buying the confidence that the Hewlett-Packard name brings and the knowledge that the HP-85 can expand with your changing needs.

For the address of your nearest HP dealer, CALL TOLL-FREE 800-648-4711 except from Alaska or Hawaii. In Nevada, 800-992-5710. For details on the HP-85, send the attached coupon, or write: Hewlett-Packard, 1000 N.E. Circle Blvd., Corvallis, OR 97330, Dept. 272C.



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619/20

*“a scientist clad in white
spools threads of DNA onto a
glass rod. He is about to treat
it with enzymes, then insert it
into E. coli, endowing the
microbe with powers nature
never gave it.”*



From a chilled beaker, a scientist clad in white gently spools spaghetti-like threads of DNA onto a glass rod. He is about to treat it with enzymes that will clip away all but a chosen gene, then insert it into the genetic material of a bacterium called *Escherichia coli*, endowing the microbe with powers that nature never gave it.

Not long ago experiments with recombinant DNA stirred visions of strange, artificial diseases against which humanity would have no natural defense; such experiments provoked sharp controversy over whether scientists should be allowed to tamper with life itself. Today most of the fears have died down, and biotechnology is filling the heads of businessmen with visions of immense profits.

In the past ten years or so, dozens of new companies have begun to harness the life processes and put them to work in industry. Quietly, almost unnoticed in a world dazzled by innovative electronic products, these firms are fomenting a technological revolution that promises to shake the foundations of medicine, agriculture, food processing, energy production, and the chemical and pharmaceutical industries.

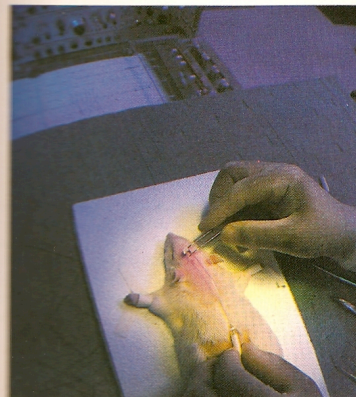
Already included among biotechnology's success stories are bacteria engineered to produce human insulin, drug-delivery systems that

THE GENE TRUST

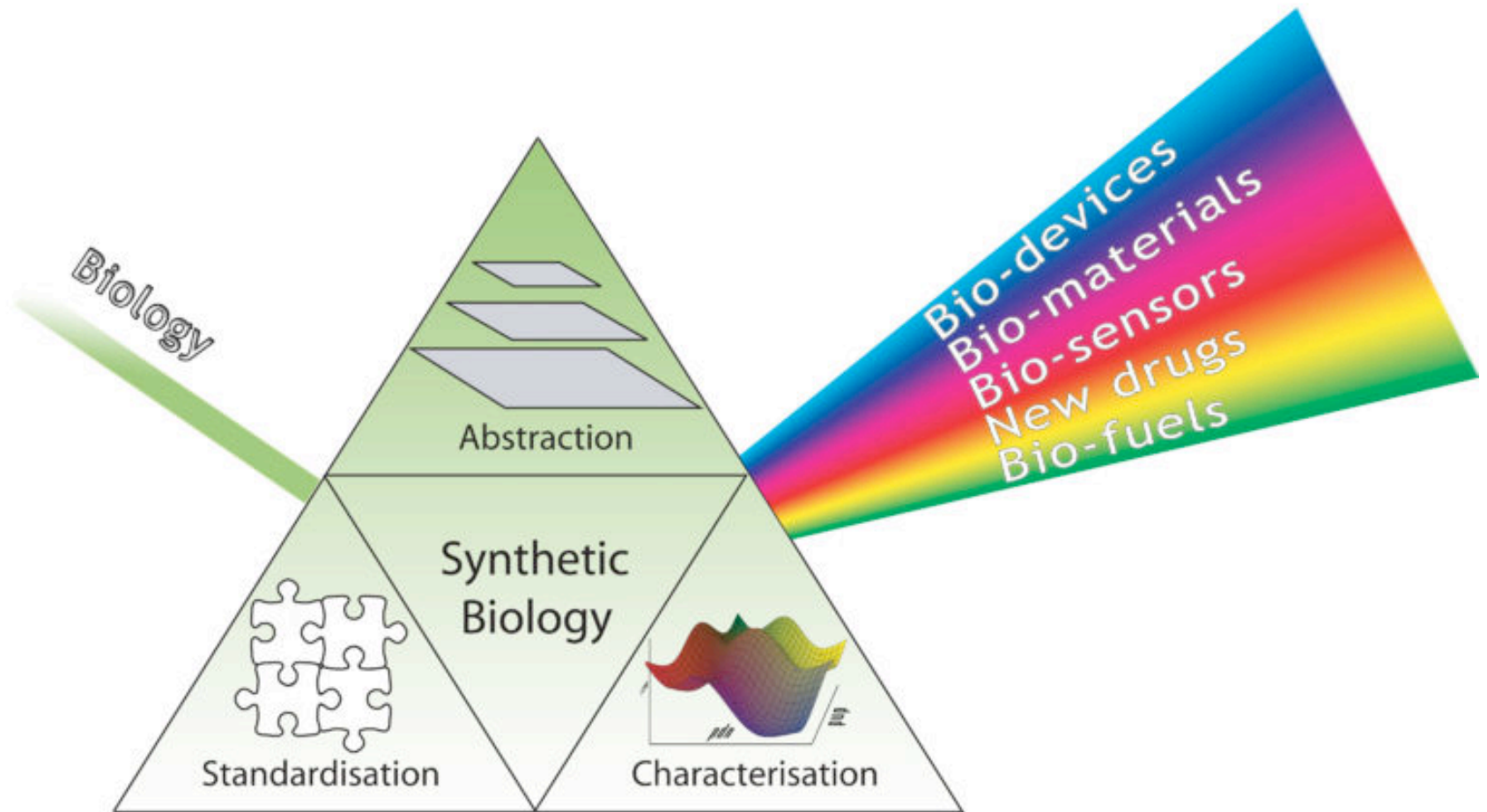
BY KATHLEEN AND
SHARON McAULIFFE

*Science and business
join forces to exploit the
machinery of life*

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
DOUGLAS KIRKLAND



What's new: Application of engineering principles to biology



Postcards & snapshots so far

- genome re-engineering

Molecular Systems Biology (2005) doi:10.1038/msb4100025
© 2005 EMBO and Nature Publishing Group All rights reserved 1744-4292/05
www.molecularsystemsbiology.com

molecular
systems
biology

Refactoring bacteriophage T7

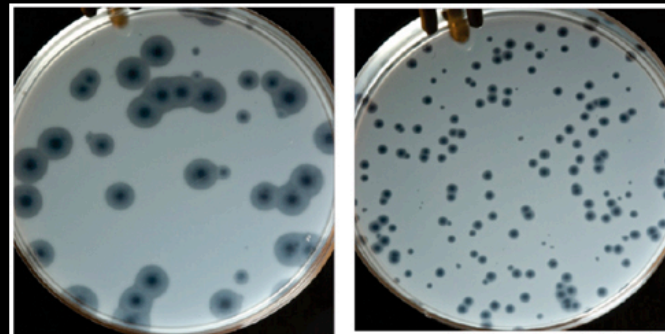
Leon Y Chan^{1,3}, Sriram Kosuri^{2,3} and Drew Endy^{2,4}

A Wild-type T7 2.8–3 elements

```
-----2.8----->
acgcaaagggagggcgacatggcaggttacggcgctaagggaatccgaaa
<--3-RBS--><-----3-----
```

B T7.1 parts 28 and 29

```
acgcaaGgggagAcgacaCggcaggttacggcgctaaggatcggccgcaaagggagggcgacatggcaggttacggcgctaaa
-----2.8-----><D28R|D29L><--3RBS--><-----3-----
```



Postcards & snapshots so far

- genome re-engineering

Complete Chemical Synthesis, Assembly, and Cloning of a *Mycoplasma genitalium* Genome

Daniel G. Gibson, Gwynedd A. Benders, Cynthia Andrews-Pfannkoch, Evgeniya A. Denisova, Holly Baden-Tillson, Jayshree Zaveri, Timothy B. Stockwell, Anushka Brownley, David W. Thomas, Mikkel A. Algire, Chuck Merryman, Lei Young, Vladimir N. Noskov, John I. Glass, J. Craig Venter, Clyde A. Hutchison III, Hamilton O. Smith*

We have synthesized a 582,970-base pair *Mycoplasma genitalium* genome. This synthetic genome, named *M. genitalium* JCVI-1.0, contains all the genes of wild-type *M. genitalium* G37 except MG408, which was disrupted by an antibiotic marker to block pathogenicity and to allow for selection. To identify the genome as synthetic, we inserted "watermarks" at intergenic sites known

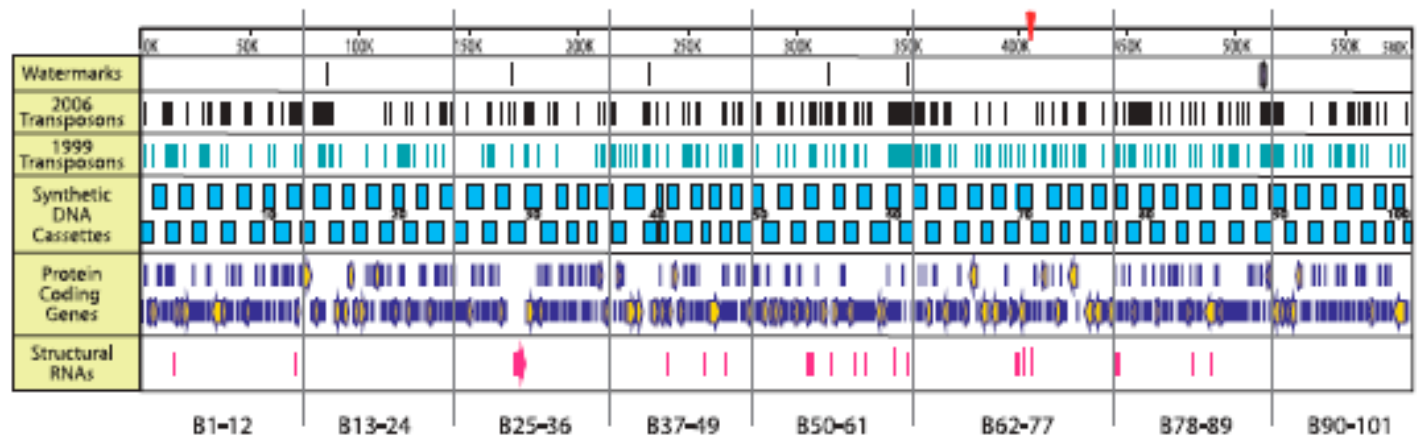


Fig. 1. Linear GenomBench (Invitrogen) representation of the circular 582,970-bp *M. genitalium* JCVI-1.0 genome. Features shown include locations of watermarks and the aminoglycoside resistance marker, viable Tn4001 transposon insertions determined in our 1999 and 2006 studies (3, 4), overlapping synthetic DNA cassettes that comprise the whole genome sequence, 485 *M. genitalium* protein-

coding genes, 43 *M. genitalium* rRNA, tRNA, and structural RNA genes, and B-series assemblies (Fig. 2). The red dagger on the genome coordinates line shows the location of the yeast/*E. coli* shuttle vector insertion. Table S1 lists cassette coordinates; table S2 has FASTA files for all 101 cassettes; table S3 lists watermark coordinates; table S4 lists the sequences of the watermarks.

Postcards & snapshots so far

•genome re-engineering

Characterization of the Reconstructed 1918 Spanish Influenza Pandemic Virus

Terrence M. Tumpey,^{1*} Christopher F. Basler,²
Patricia V. Aguilar,² Hui Zeng,¹ Alicia Solórzano,²
David E. Swayne,⁴ Nancy J. Cox,¹ Jacqueline M. Katz,¹
Jeffery K. Taubenberger,³ Peter Palese,² Adolfo García-Sastre²

The pandemic influenza virus of 1918–1919 killed an estimated 20 to 50 million people worldwide. With the recent availability of the complete 1918 influenza virus coding sequence, we used reverse genetics to generate an influenza virus bearing all eight gene segments of the pandemic virus to study the properties associated with its extraordinary virulence. In stark contrast to contemporary human influenza H1N1 viruses, the 1918 pandemic virus had the ability to replicate in the absence of trypsin, caused death in mice and embryonated chicken eggs, and displayed a high-growth phenotype in human bronchial epithelial cells. Moreover, the coordinated expression of the 1918 virus genes most certainly confers the unique high-virulence phenotype observed with this pandemic virus.

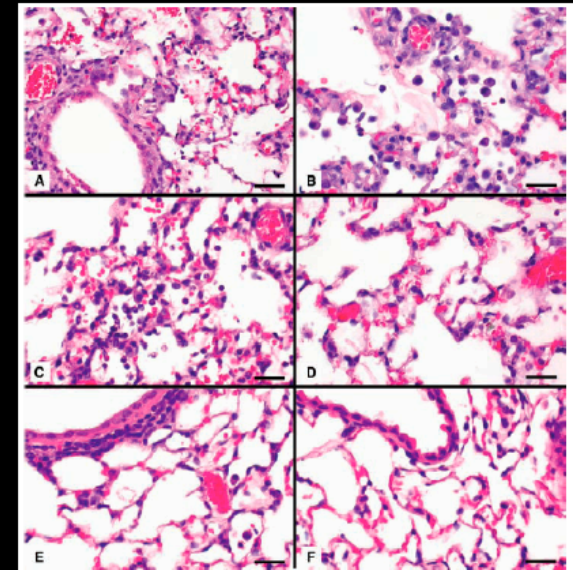


Fig. 2. Photomicrographs of hematoxylin and eosin-stained lung sections. (A to C), lungs from mice infected with the 1918 influenza virus: (A) necrotizing bronchiolitis and severe alveolitis, (B) severe alveolar edema and histiocytic alveolitis with scattered neutrophils, and (C) alveolitis, predominantly neutrophilic, and associated hemorrhage. (D) Moderate alveolitis and edema in lungs from a mouse infected with 1918 HA/NA/M/NP/NS-Tx/91 virus. (E) Mild peribronchial inflammation with adjacent minimal alveolitis in a mouse infected with Tx/91 HA/1918 virus. (F) Lung tissue from a Tx/91-infected mouse showing the paucity of lesions. Scale bars, 25 μ m (A) and 15 μ m (B to F).

Postcards & snapshots so far

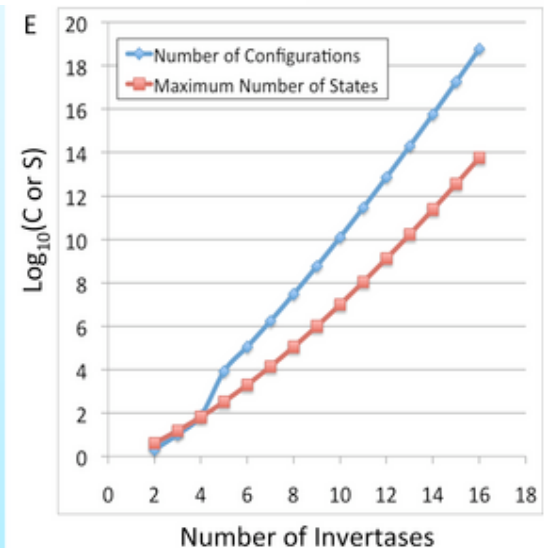
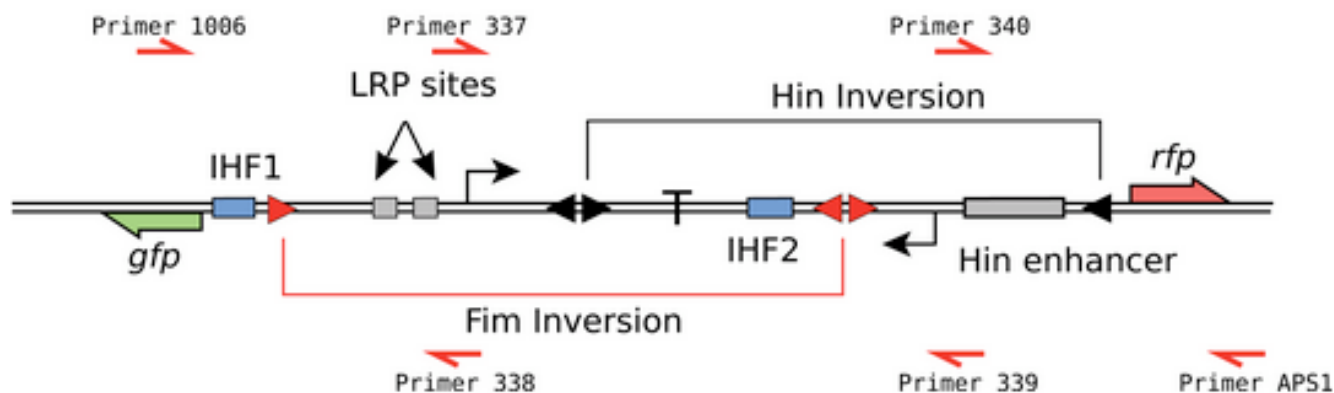
- genome re-engineering
- DNA based memory

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Design and Construction of a Double Inversion Recombination Switch for Heritable Sequential Genetic Memory

Timothy S. Ham¹, Sung K. Lee², Jay D. Keasling^{1,2,3}, Adam P. Arkin^{1,2*}

Citation: Ham TS, Lee SK, Keasling JD, Arkin AP (2008) Design and Construction of a Double Inversion Recombination Switch for Heritable Sequential Genetic Memory. PLoS ONE 3(7): e2815. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0002815



Postcards & snapshots so far

- genome re-engineering
- DNA based memory
- logic engineering

Science 17 October 2008:
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DOI: 10.1126/science.1160311

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REPORTS

Higher-Order Cellular Information Processing with Synthetic RNA Devices

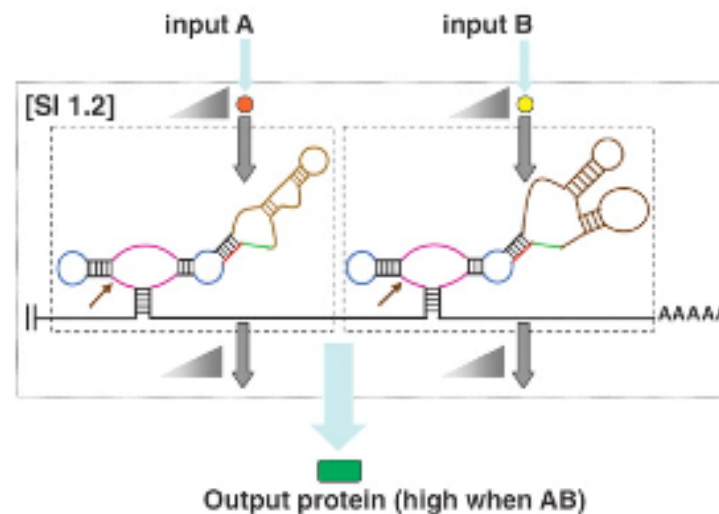
Maung Nyan Win and Christina D. Smolke¹

The engineering of biological systems is anticipated to provide effective solutions to challenges that include energy and food production, environmental quality, and health and medicine. Our ability to transmit information to and from living systems, and to process and act on information inside cells, is critical to advancing the scale and complexity at which we can engineer, manipulate, and probe biological systems. We developed a general approach for assembling RNA devices that can execute higher-order cellular information processing operations from standard components. The engineered devices can function as logic gates (AND, NOR, NAND, or OR gates) and signal filters, and exhibit cooperativity. RNA devices process and transmit molecular inputs to targeted protein outputs, linking computation to gene expression and thus the potential to control cellular function.

AND gate



A	B	output
theo	lc	GFP
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1



Postcards & snapshots so far

- genome re-engineering
- DNA based memory
- logic engineering
- circuit engineering

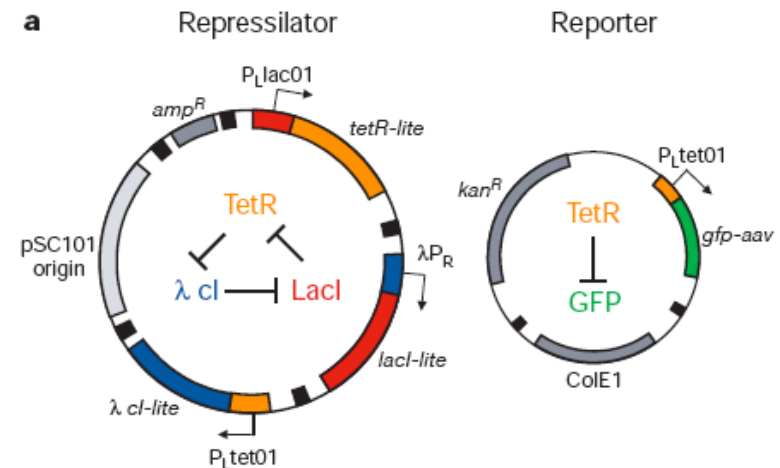
A synthetic oscillatory network of transcriptional regulators

Michael B. Elowitz & Stanislas Leibler

Departments of Molecular Biology and Physics, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey 08544, USA

Networks of interacting biomolecules carry out many essential functions in living cells¹, but the 'design principles' underlying the functioning of such intracellular networks remain poorly understood, despite intensive efforts including quantitative analysis of relatively simple systems². Here we present a complementary approach to this problem: the design and construction of a synthetic network to implement a particular function. We used three transcriptional repressor systems that are not part of any natural biological clock³⁻⁵ to build

NATURE | VOL 403 | 20 JANUARY 2000 | www



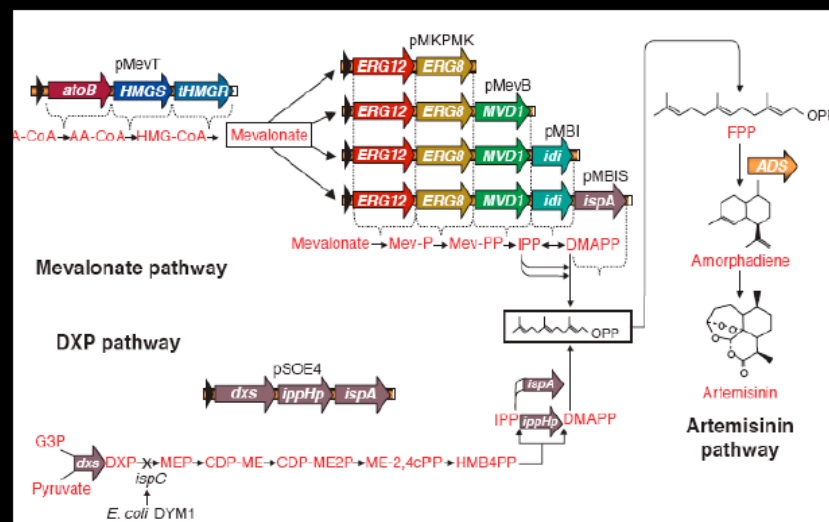
Postcards & snapshots so far

- genome re-engineering
- DNA based memory
- logic engineering
- circuit engineering

Engineering a mevalonate pathway in *Escherichia coli* for production of terpenoids

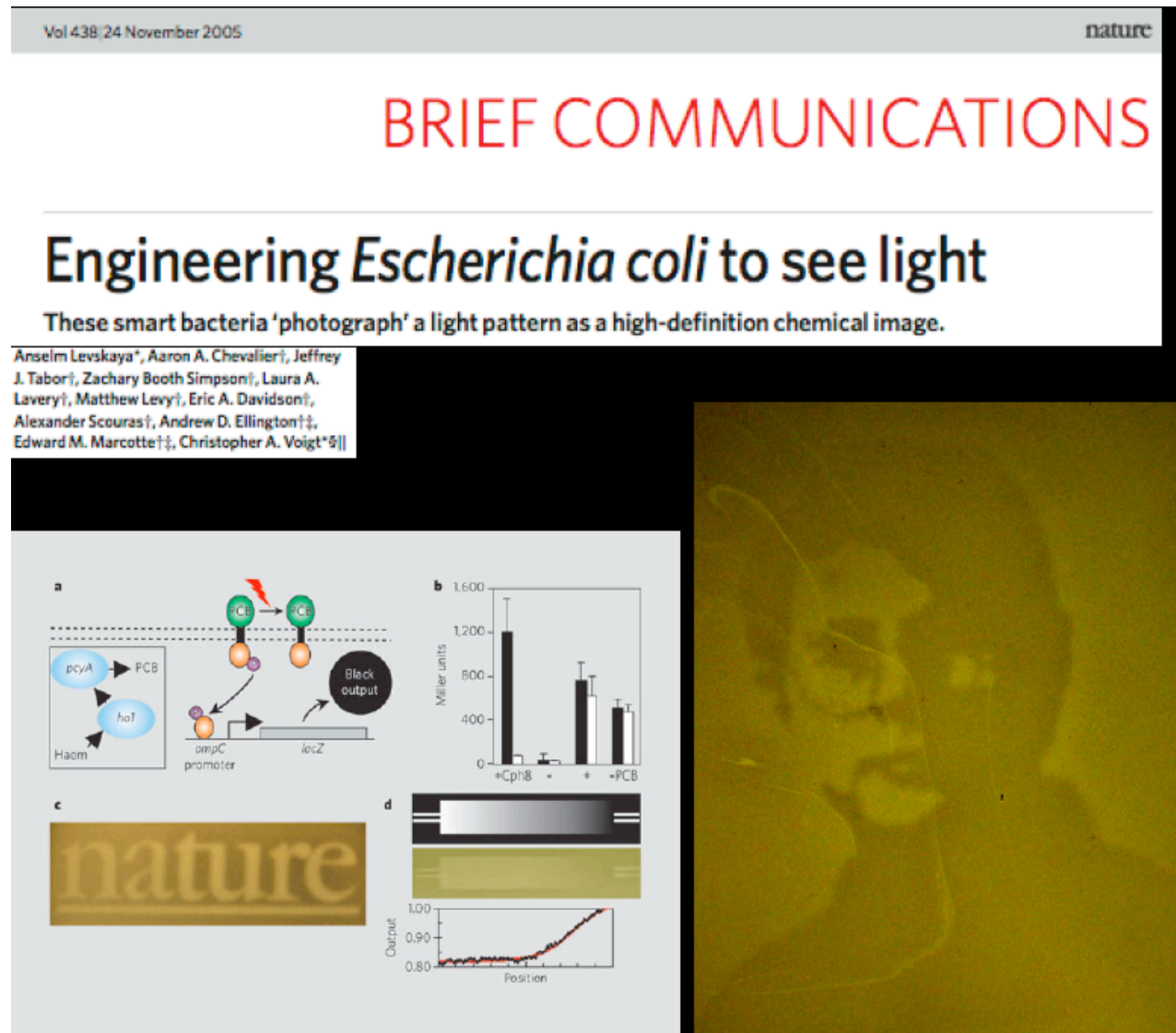
Vincent JJ Martin^{1,2,3}, Douglas J Pitera^{1,3}, Sydnor T Withers¹, Jack D Newman¹ & Jay D Keasling¹

Isoprenoids are the most numerous and structurally diverse family of natural products. Terpenoids, a class of isoprenoids often isolated from plants, are used as commercial flavor and fragrance compounds and antimalarial or anticancer drugs. Because plant tissue extractions typically yield low terpenoid concentrations, we sought an alternative method to produce high-value terpenoid compounds, such as the antimalarial drug artemisinin, in a microbial host. We engineered the expression of a synthetic amorpha-4,11-diene synthase gene and the mevalonate isoprenoid pathway from *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* in *Escherichia coli*. Concentrations of amorphadiene, the sesquiterpene olefin precursor to artemisinin, reached 24 μg caryophyllene equivalent/ml. Because isopentenyl and dimethylallyl pyrophosphates are the universal precursors to all isoprenoids, the strains developed in this study can serve as platform hosts for the production of any terpenoid compound for which a terpene synthase gene is available.



Postcards & snapshots so far

- genome re-engineering
- DNA based memory
- logic engineering
- circuit engineering
- system engineering



Postcards & snapshots so far

- genome re-engineering
- DNA based memory
- logic engineering
- circuit engineering
- system engineering

doi:10.1016/j.jmb.2005.10.076

J. Mol. Biol. (2006) 355, 619–627

JMB

Available online at www.sciencedirect.com

SCIENCE @ DIRECT®



Environmentally Controlled Invasion of Cancer Cells by Engineered Bacteria

J. Christopher Anderson^{1,3}, Elizabeth J. Clarke³, Adam P. Arkin^{1,2*} and Christopher A. Voigt^{2,3}



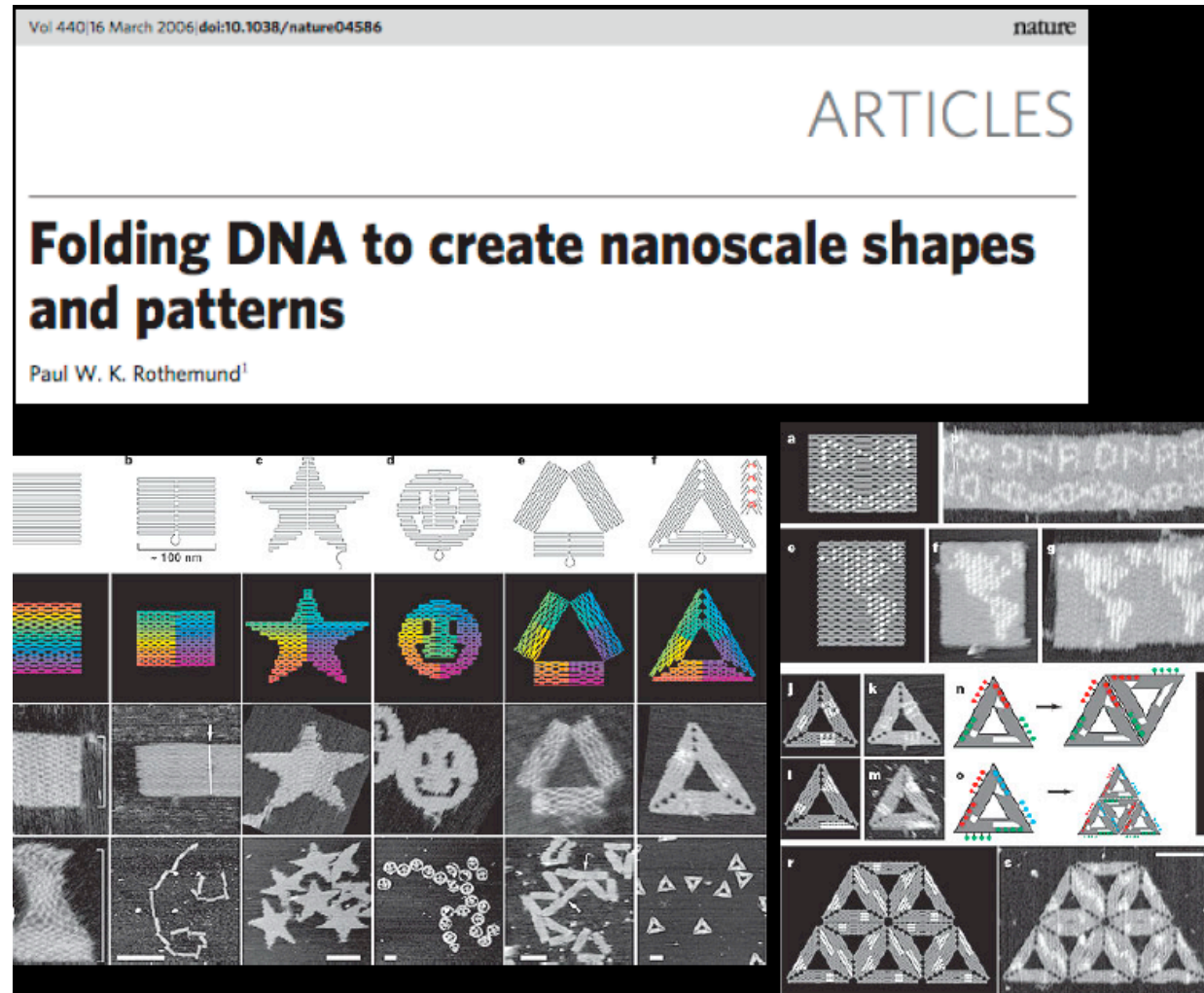
Tumor-killing bacteria

1. Engineered bacteria are injected into the bloodstream; polysaccharide molecules on their surfaces allow them to evade the immune system
2. When they detect the low-oxygen environment of a tumor, the bacteria produce invasion, a protein that allows them to infiltrate the cancer cells
3. The invasion binds to the cancer cells, prompting the cells to engulf the bacteria
4. The cancer cell bursts the bacterium, releasing an enzyme that is toxic to the cancer cell

Image courtesy Tami Tolpa

Postcards & snapshots so far

- genome re-engineering
- DNA based memory
- logic engineering
- circuit engineering
- system engineering
- biomaterials engineering



Postcards & snapshots so far

- genome re-engineering
- DNA based memory
- logic engineering
- circuit engineering
- system engineering
- biomaterials engineering

Ecological communication and illumination!

Growing Light and Other Conversations allows you to peer into the lives of glowing microorganisms in Dr. Natalie Kuldell's Biological Engineering Laboratory at MIT. This web portal is a microscope into **living science**.

Is there such a thing as **living** light?

Can there be an ecological conversation? Can you talk to ecology?

What would you say to bacteria? To the aurora borealis?
Would you communicate to bacteria or the atmosphere with a megaphone?

Growing Light and Other Conversations
by the *Grafting Parlour*

*live communication between
bacteria (US), the aurora borealis (Finland), and human beings (Ireland)*

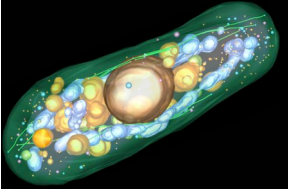


What you'll work on...



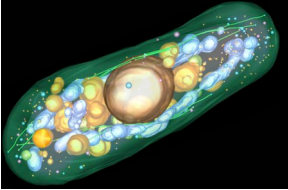
1. design a plausible and compelling synthetic biological system
2. develop a detailed design plan and construction roadmap
3. evaluate ownership, commercial, ethical aspects of the project

What you'll learn (I think)...



Understand the operation of genetic programs in prokaryotes and eukaryotes.

What you'll learn (I think)...

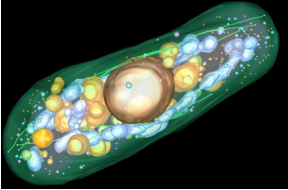


Understand the operation of genetic programs in prokaryotes and eukaryotes.



Describe key enabling technologies that support the engineering of biology, including synthesis, abstraction and standardization.

What you'll learn (I think)...



Understand the operation of genetic programs in prokaryotes and eukaryotes.

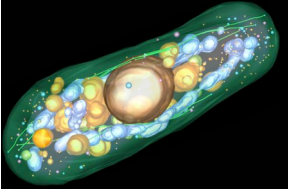


Describe key enabling technologies that support the engineering of biology, including synthesis, abstraction and standardization.



Develop awareness of issues of human practice that impact & result from the development and application of biological technologies.

What you'll learn (I think)...



Understand the operation of genetic programs in prokaryotes and eukaryotes.



Describe key enabling technologies that support the engineering of biology, including synthesis, abstraction and standardization.



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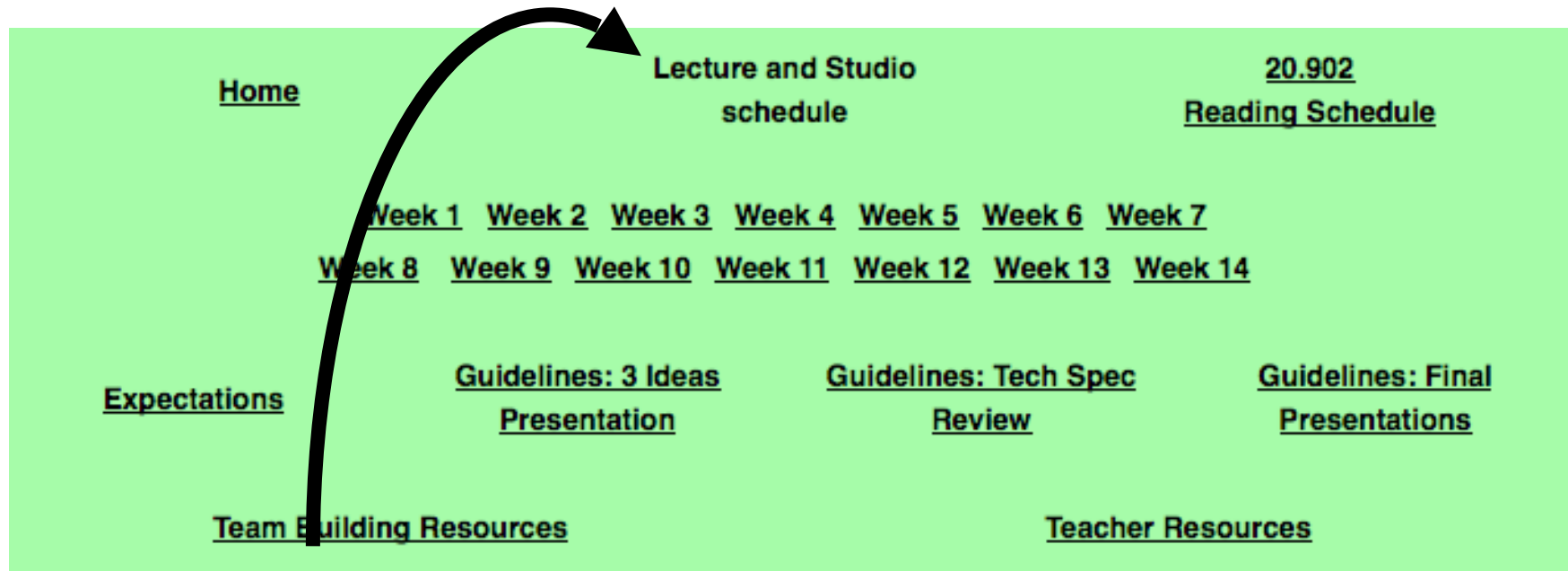
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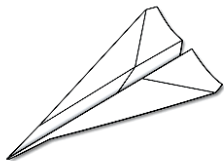
[http://openwetware.org/wiki/20.20\(S09\)](http://openwetware.org/wiki/20.20(S09))

3-3-3



Tuesdays/Thursdays

11:30-1



Start with challenge/puzzle/activity

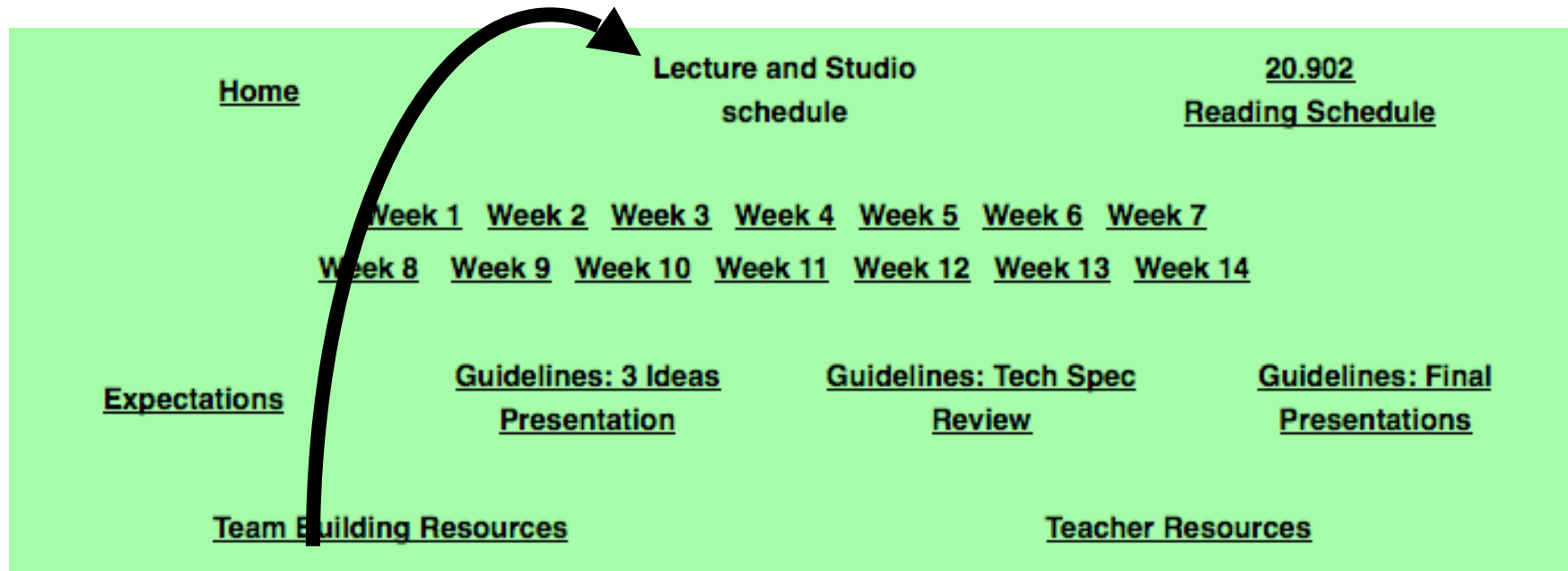


Follow-up with group discussion



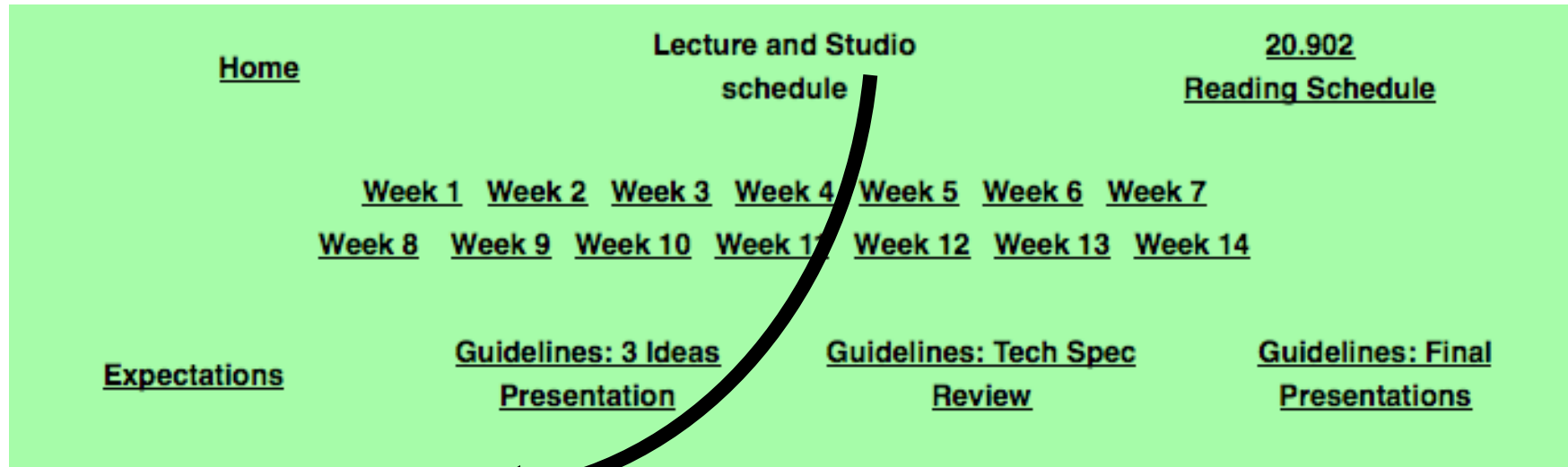
Occasional homework





- ✿ How can biology be made easier to engineer?
- ✿ What are the consequences of success?
- ✿ How has nature solved physical challenges?
- ✿ In what ways does nature innovate?






Wednesdays

2-5

Challenge	What is the challenge to address?	Importance of challenge?	Impact of solution?
Project name	Your title here	Possible competing technologies?	Knowns and unknowns?
Device-level diagram	Your design here	Model for system operation?	Buildable? Cost? Time? Safety? Security?
		Plan for validation and debugging?	
Parts-level diagram	Parts list here	Sourcing?	
		Description and annotation of function?	

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<u>Expectations</u>	<u>Guidelines: 3 Ideas Presentation</u>		<u>Guidelines: Tech Spec Review</u>			<u>Guidelines: Final Presentations</u>	

Wednesdays

2-5

Challenge	What is the challenge to address?			3 ideas presentation		
Project name	Your title here					
Device-level diagram	Your design here					
Parts-level diagram	Parts list here					
		Model for system operation?	Buildable?			
		Plan for validation and debugging?	Cost?			
			Time?			
		Sourcing?	Safety?			
		Description and annotation of function?	Security?			

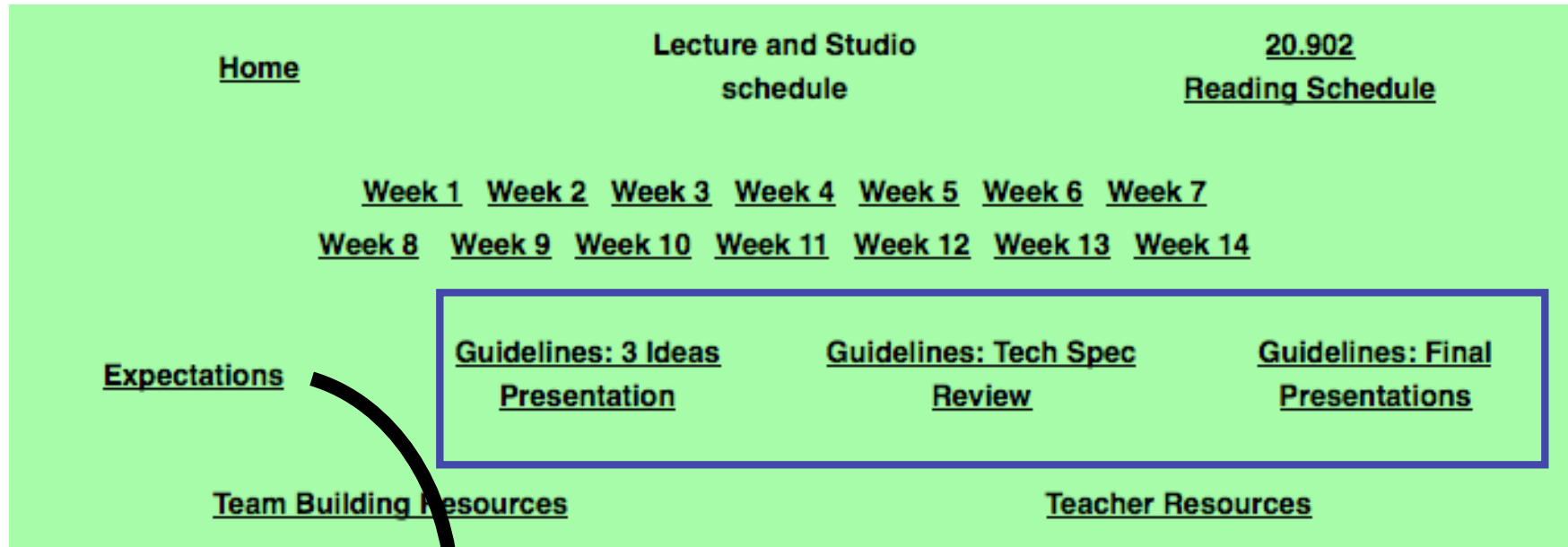
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<u>Week 8</u>	<u>Week 9</u>	<u>Week 10</u>	<u>Week 11</u>	<u>Week 12</u>	<u>Week 13</u>	<u>Week 14</u>	
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<u>Expectations</u>	<u>Guidelines: 3 Ideas Presentation</u>		<u>Guidelines: Tech Spec Review</u>			<u>Guidelines: Final Presentations</u>	

Wednesdays

2-5

Challenge	What is the challenge to address?	Importance of challenge?
		Impact of solution?
Project name	Your title here	Possible competing technologies?
		Knowns and unknowns?
Device-level diagram	Your design here	
Parts-level diagram	Parts list here	

Tech spec review



Project

- 3 ideas presentation
- Tech spec review
- Final presentation

60%, team grades

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Project

- 3 ideas presentation
- Tech spec review
- Final presentation

60%, team grades

Personal Design Portfolio
25%, individual grades

Project Development Ntbk
10%, team grades

Instructor Leverage
5%, individual grades

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Part 1: Readings

- Paper 1 (10%): presented with a partner
- Paper 2 (15%): presented solo
- Response record (25%): your thoughts about the papers you don't present.

Instructions for these assignment are [here](#)

Part 2: Team Mentoring

- Progress reports (15%): one page summaries of your freshman team's work
- Mentoring journal(15%): one page summary of your freshman team's dynamics
- Team's project average (15%): based on the grade for the 3 major assignments submitted by your freshman team
- Instructor Leverage (5%): discretionary adjustment by NK

Instructions for these assignments are [here](#)

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any ???s

Let's get building!!!

the end